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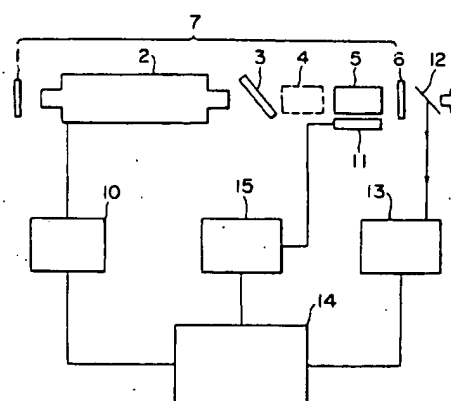
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Narrow band excimer laser apparatus.

Within a resonator (7), a polarizer (3) for linearly polarizing an oscillation laser beam is provided and a birefringence filter (5) for forming the oscillation laser beam into narrow band is arranged.

Accordingly, in forming an excimer laser into narrow band, no possible damage of an optical system is present, an oscillation output is not lowered, and a laser of high efficiency can be provided.

FIG.1





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

CITATIONS TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
Y	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 12, no. 322 (E-652)(3169) 31 August 1988 & JP-A-63 086 588 (KOMATSU) 16 April 1988 * abstract * - - - -	1-5,10	H 01 S 3/08 H 01 S 3/106 H 01 S 3/134 H 01 S 3/136 G 02 B 27/28 H 01 S 3/225
Y	APPLIED OPTICS vol. 19, no. 5, 1 March 1980, NEW-YORK pages 702 - 710; D.R.PREUSS ET AL.: 'TREE-STAGE BIREFRINGENT FILTER TUNING SMOOTHLY OVER THE VISIBLE REGION:THEORETICAL TREATMENT AND EXPERIMENTAL DESIGN' * abstract * CONSTRUCTION AND PERFORMANCE OF A TREE-STAGE BIREFRINGENT FILTER * page 707, left column, paragraph 5 - page 707, right column; figures 7,8 * - - - -	1,4,5	
Y	US-A-3 560 875 (J.A.MACKEN) * abstract * * column 4, line 66 - column 5, line 27; figures 1-9 * - - - -	1,10	
Y	US-A-4 674 098 (R.TURNER) * abstract; table 1 * - - - -	2,3	
A	OPTICS LETTERS vol. 14, no. 8, 15 April 1989, WASHINGTON pages 393 - 395; J.S.KRASINSKY ET AL.: 'BIREFRINGENCE OF SOLID-STATE LASER MEDIA:BROADBEND TUNING DISCONTINUITIES AND APPLICATION TO LASER LINE NARROWING' * the whole document * - - - - -	1	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5) H 01 S G 02 B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of search 25 February 92	Examiner MALIC K.
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document T: theory or principle underlying the invention		E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons ----- B: member of the same patent family, corresponding document	